

LISTING OF CLAIMS

No Admission. The claims presented below are labeled pursuant to the request of the Patent Office for convenience in examination. No claim identified as "Currently Cancelled" or "Currently Amended" was altered for any reason related to patentability and the cancellation or amendment of any claim does not represent an admission that the claim was altered for any reason related to patentability. All amendments were made solely as a result of the Examiner's requirements regarding election of species.

Amendments to the Claims:

This Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-68. (Cancelled).

Claims 69-101. (Cancelled).

102. (Previously Presented) A method for treating a subject for a penetrating eye trauma, comprising administering a connexin 43-downregulating amount of a connexin 43 antisense compound to the eye of said subject.

103. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 102 wherein the eye trauma is chemical trauma.

104. (Withdrawn)

105. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 102 wherein the eye trauma results in corneal epithelial damage.

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106. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 102 wherein the connexin 43 antisense compound is administered to a subject having an amniotic membrane graft.

107. (Currently Amended) A method of claim 102 wherein said antisense compound is selected from the group consisting of antisense ~~oligonucleotides~~, oligonucleotides and antisense polynucleotides, ~~deoxyribozymes~~, ~~morpholino oligonucleotides~~, ~~RNAi molecules~~, ~~siRNA molecules~~, ~~PNA molecules~~, ~~DNAzymes~~, and ~~5' end mutated U1 small nuclear RNAs~~, and ~~analogues of the preceding~~.

108. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 107 wherein said antisense compound comprises a nucleobase sequence selected from SEQ ID NO:1-3.

109. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 107 wherein said antisense compound is targeted to at least about 8 nucleobases of a nucleic acid molecule encoding a connexin having a nucleobase sequence selected from SEQ ID NO:12.

110. (Previously Presented) The method of any of claims 102-105 or 106 wherein said antisense compound is an antisense oligonucleotide between 15 and 35 nucleobases in length.

111. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 110 wherein said antisense compound is an antisense oligonucleotide comprising naturally occurring nucleobases and an unmodified internucleoside linkage.

112. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 110 wherein said antisense compound is antisense oligonucleotide comprising at least one modified internucleoside linkage, at least one modified sugar moiety, and/or at least one modified nucleobase.

113. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 112 wherein said modified internucleoside linkage is a phosphorothioate linkage.

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114. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 102 wherein said antisense compound is administered by topical administration.

115. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 102 wherein said antisense compound is administered by local administration.

116. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 102 wherein said antisense compound is administered by intraocular injection.

117. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 110 wherein the antisense compound is formulated with a pluronic gel.

118. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 117 wherein the pluronic gel comprises pluronic F127.

119. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 110 wherein the antisense compound is administered once.

120. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 110 wherein the antisense compound is administered more than once.

121. (Previously Presented) A method of claim 102 wherein the subject is a human.